

# CITY OF LODI

## COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

AGENDA TITLE: Approval from Council to Apply for Assistance to Firefighters Grant (FIRE ACT)

MEETING DATE: March 5, 2003

PREPARED BY: Michael E. Pretz, Fire Chief

RECOMMENDED ACTION: That Council approve the filing of a grant application for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (FIRE ACT).

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: In 2000, Congress enacted the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (FIRE ACT). The program offers competitive grants to both local career and volunteer fire departments. The purpose of the grant is to protect the health and safety of the public and firefighting personnel against fire and fire-related hazards and to provide assistance for fire prevention programs. In the FY 2003 program fire departments will be allowed only one (1) application. There is \$750 million available for successful grants. The program options include, Fire Operations and Firefighter Safety Programs, Fire Prevention Programs, Emergency Medical Services Programs, Vehicle Acquisition Program.

After a department analysis of program needs and an understanding of the program goals, fire department staff has chosen the Fire Prevention Program option. The department will be requesting funds to purchase a fire prevention mobile home to demonstrate fire safety programs to both children and elder adults. These types of fire safety programs have been very successful for at risk populations.

Should we be successful, the City of Lodi will have a 30% match for the grant. Fire department staff estimates the cost of the safety (mobile) home to be approximately \$150,000.

FUNDING: General Fund Capital Account

  
Michael E. Pretz  
Fire Chief

  
Vicky McAthie  
Finance Director

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

  
H. Dixon Flynn -- City Manager